GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3694
ANSWERED ON:24.03.2017
Unnecessary Tests/Investigations
Jardosh Smt. Darshana Vikram

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken note of reports that many private sector hospitals/ labs/diagnostic centres/ individual doctors are resorting to unnecessary tests/ investigations and even avoidable major surgical procedures in order to fleece innocent patients, especially the health insured ones thereby playing with their health; and

(b) if so, the mechanism available from fresh and steps being contemplated by the Government including punitive laws, in consultation with the State Governments and various stakeholders to prevent such malpractice and to punish such entities?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)
(a): Incidents of prescribing unnecessary tests/investigations and avoidable surgeries by some private hospitals/labs/diagnostic centres/individual doctors have come to the notice of the Government through media.
(b): Since health is a State subject, it is the responsibility of the respective State Government and/or regulatory councils such as State Medical Councils, etc., to take action to prevent and control such practices. The Central Government has also enacted the Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act, 2010. The enforcement of the Clinical Establishments Act is also within the remit of the State/UT Governments.
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